

President Clinton, on the other hand, and the Democrats want to help our schools, help our schools prepare for the future by ensuring that every child enters the classroom ready to learn, by training more teachers and raising learning standards through Goals 2000, by expanding the use of technology in our classroom and by making college more affordable.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to make education our No. 1 priority and ensure that every student enters the classroom ready to learn and has the opportunity.

DRUG USE AMONG TEENS

(Mr. HOKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I looked at this survey that has been completed by HHS about drug use among teenagers. I do not get it. I am confused about why.

Here we have got overall drug use that has doubled in the last 4 years. Remember that after there was a substantial decline, Mr. Speaker, during the 1980's and the early 1990's, in the past 4 years overall drug use has nearly doubled. Marijuana use is up 105 percent. LSD is up 183 percent. Cocaine is up 166 percent. Inquiring minds wants to know why.

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Why, Mr. Speaker, what has changed? What has happened? What can we look to? What is the explanation?

Mr. Speaker, I was the first invitee at a townhall meeting for the homeless in Cleveland about a week ago, and I asked those people what is the No. 1 problem that got them to this situation that they find themselves in, and they said drugs.

WE NEED THE TRUTH ABOUT TAX CUTS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I think the question should be asked this morning as we move into this process where the American people will make choices: "What does a 15-percent tax cut do for you or for those Americans who are looking for a better life?"

We do not need political rhetoric. We do not need confusion. We need the truth.

It is interesting that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to now use the straw man of teenage drug use, something that all of us abhor, something that is necessary to prevent, when they are the very ones asking for almost a \$600 billion tax cut that benefits those making over \$100,000 so that, one, we can cut the drug-free schools program. As a member of the Committee on the Judiciary, that is what they

cut, cut the DARE Program that enhances and gives our children the incentive not to take drugs.

Mr. Speaker, I believe in prevention, but a tax cut does nothing but to scare seniors by causing a \$300 billion cut in Medicare, it cuts the environment and, likewise, it cuts our opportunities for education.

Let us tell the truth. This 15 percent across the board has no basis in fact. There is no way to tell how it can be done. There is no way to say that it will improve your life. Please realize what the truth is. Fight against those tax cuts and let us educate our children.

SET AN EXAMPLE ON DRUG TESTING

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, back in the early 1980's Ronald Reagan, at my urging, enacted random drug testing on the military. At that time over 25 percent of our active military were using drugs in one form or another. Once we put random drug testing into effect, within 4 years it had dropped from 25 percent down to 4 percent.

What is happening in America today is so frightening with 12- and 13-year-olds using marijuana and a 137-percent increase, 14- and 15-year-olds now increasing by 200 percent. Something has got to be done.

On opening day of the next Congress I will introduce a rule change to the House which will set the example bringing Members of Congress and their staff under random drug testing rules. We need to set the example. We need to go back to just say no to our young people so that they know it is important.

I hope my colleagues will support my rule change on January 3, 1997.

DOLE TAX CUT BAD FOR SENIORS

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no fear of taking a drug test, and I suggest we do it here on the floor of the House.

Let me talk about the cuts that we have in safe and drug-free schools, the same people we have heard this morning talk about the increase in drug use, and yet this majority Republican Congress cut \$99 million out of safe and drug-free schools that the President requested, again the DARE programs.

But that is not what I want to talk about today. Mr. Speaker, I really wanted to talk about the proposed spending of all the political career of Senator Dole as a budget balancer and now calling for a 15 percent tax cut. This sounds great and all of us would

like to have one, but how are we going to pay for it? In recent history, if there is any indication, it will be paid for by cuts in education, by cuts in the Medicare needs for seniors, and of course, remember last year when Senator Dole bragged about voting against the creation of Medicare in 1965. Now he says he wants to preserve and protect it.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that after November 5, if that happens, we will then hear about where those cuts are going to come, and they are going to come from education, from Medicare for seniors and from programs that we need to plan for the 21st century.

GINGRICH AUDIT

(Mr. WARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a colleague of mine is trying to intimidate the IRS. In today's Washington Times, I read that Republican leaders are upset that the IRS is making an inquiry into the corporate funding of Speaker GINGRICH's courses at two Georgia schools. It seems that the Republican leadership is not pleased with the timing of the inquiry just 2 months before the election.

But, as my colleagues know, the information about the audit was not leaked by the IRS. In fact, it was the schools involved who told the press that these IRS audits were taking place.

Mr. Speaker, the audit is not new. It has been underway for some time. There is no political motive here. The American people deserve to know if one of their public servants has been a party to anything even remotely illegal, like the possible illegal corporate funding of these courses.

Perhaps it is ill-timed, but Speaker GINGRICH's constituents deserve to know the truth.

LAY OFF, MR. ARCHER

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this morning the Associated Press reported that the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, BILL ARCHER, has sent an intimidating letter to the Internal Revenue Service concerning an investigation the IRS has launched into a partisan political course NEWT GINGRICH taught at two Georgia colleges.

The IRS has good reason to investigate Speaker GINGRICH. Allegations regarding the Speaker's abuse of tax exempt organizations have swirled for more than 2 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and appropriate for the IRS to investigate the serious allegations of misuse of nonprofit organizations by Speaker GINGRICH.